

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /075 W

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P R 301505Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2964

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USBERLIN

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL GENEVA

AMCONSUL ZAGREB

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 2703

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR YO FR

SUBJECT: SAUVAGNARGUES VISIT TO BELGRADE

REF: (A) BELGRADE 2507 (NOTAL), (B) GENEVA 3996

1. FRENCH EMBASSY COUNSELOR (ANDRE NEMO) CONFIRMS THAT  
RESULT OF SAUVAGNARGUES' VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA IS OPENING  
OF NEW PHASE IN BILATERAL RELATIONS. CITING LANGUAGE  
IN PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN BY SAUVAGNARGUES ("IDENTICAL OR  
SIMILAR VIEWS HELD BY THE TWO COUNTRIES ON NUMEROUS  
QUESTIONS ARE BY FAR GREATER IN NUMBER THAN IT COULD HAVE  
BEEN PREVIOUSLY ASSUMED") AND IN COMMUNIQUE  
("HAVING CONCLUDED THE IDENTITY OF THE POLICIES OF  
THEIR GOVERNMENTS, INSPIRED BY THE IDENTICAL ASPIRATION  
FOR SAFEGUARDING NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND PROMOTION  
OF INTERNATIONAL ACCORD-MAKING, THE TWO MINISTERS  
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UNDERLINED THE WISH FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF THE

POLITICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND FRANCE"), NEMO SAID THERE WILL BE SIGNIFICANTLY HEIGHTENED CONSULTATION AND COOPERATION ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

2. WHILE HE DECLINED TO DIRECTLY CONFIRM THAT THERE HAD BEEN AN INHIBITION ON RELATIONS BECAUSE OF THE DEGAULLE-MIHAILOVIC RELATIONSHIP, NEMO DID SO INDIRECTLY WHEN HE DESCRIBED THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING BETWEEN SAUVAGNARGUES AND TITO. IT SEEMS THE FRENCH HAD NOT INFORMED THE YUGOSLAVS IN ADVANCE THAT SAUVAGNARGUES CARRIED A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING, AND TITO OPENED THE MEETING BY RATHER COLDLY CITING THE FACT THAT PAST COMMUNICATIONS ON THE HIGHEST LEVEL HAD NOT BEEN ADEQUATE FOR TWO COUNTRIES WITH SO MUCH IN COMMON. SAUVAGNARGUES AT THAT POINT PULLED OUT A WRITTEN MESSAGE FROM THE FRENCH PRESIDENT, AND ACCORDING TO NEMO THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE MEETING IMMEDIATELY CHANGED.

3. ASKED HOW THIS NEW AND CLOSER RELATIONSHIP WOULD BE MANIFESTED, NEMO, WHILE RATHER VAGUELY TALKING ABOUT MORE FREQUENT CONSULTATIONS ON A BROAD RANGE OF QUESTIONS, OBSERVED MORE CONCRETELY THAT IT PROBABLY WOULD MEAN AN INCREASE IN THE STAFF OF THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN BELGRADE "BECAUSE WE SIMPLY DON'T HAVE ENOUGH PEOPLE TO DO THAT KIND OF THING".

4. REGARDING THE QUESTION OF QUADRIPARTITE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (REF B), NEMO SAID SAUVAGNARGUES MADE IT CLEAR TO ALL CONCERNED (INCLUDING DISCUSSING IT DIRECTLY WITH TITO) THAT THIS WAS A FUNDAMENTAL FRENCH CONCERN. IT WAS NEMO'S IMPRESSION THAT SAUVAGNARGUES HAD SATISFIED YUGOSLAV CONCERNS ABOUT THE PROPOSED LANGUAGE, BUT HE PLEADED IGNORANCE REGARDING WHAT THEY WERE AND WHETHER THE MEETING OF THE SFRY PRESIDENCY CHAIRED BY TITO MAY 28 HAD ACTED ON THE LANGUAGE.

5. AS TO VISITS, NEMO SAID THAT IT IS FORESEEN THAT PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING WILL VISIT YUGOSLAVIA IN 1976. ASKED ABOUT YUGOSLAV PRIME MINISTER BIJEDIC, HE SAID LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT VISIT WOULD COME FIRST, PROBABLY IN THE LATTER HALF OF THIS YEAR.

6. ON ECONOMIC RELATIONS, NEMO HAD LITTLE TO SAY EXCEPT THAT THE YUGOSLAVS HAD EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERN OVER THE CONTINUING IMBALANCE IN TRADE. HOWEVER, IN CONVERSATION MAY 29 WITH AMBASSADOR, YUGOSLAV NATIONAL BANK GOVERNOR BRANISLAV COLANOVIC SAID THAT THE YUGOSLAVS HAD RAISED THEIR BALANCE

WITH THE FRENCH, PARTICULARLY THE EEC BAN ON YUGOSLAV MEAT IN WHICH THE FRENCH (FROM THE YUGOSLAV VIEWPOINT) ARE A CHIEF CULPRIT. SAUVAGNARGUES AVOIDED ANY DIRECT REPLY ON THIS POINT, AND MERELY HINTED THAT RELIEF MIGHT COME SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE.

7. THUS, WHILE THE SIGNALS COME THROUGH CLEARLY THAT WE WILL BE SEEING A LOT MORE OF JOINT FRENCH-YUGOSLAV POSITIONS ON MULTI-LATERAL ISSUES, IT LOOKS LIKE BUSINESS AS USUAL FOR THE TIME BEING ON GUT ECONOMIC ISSUES WHERE THE YUGOSLAVS WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SOME HELP.  
SILBERMAN

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